

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 26 OCTOBER 1993

----- BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION -----

REFNO: 1075-0-01 (ACCNO 1384) Status: (8) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: MITCHELL, GILBERT LOUIS Date Status assigned: 11 Sep 1974

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	A -
Grade	04	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN		Eyes	HAZEL	Weapon	#
Serial No	680985	Height	71 in / 1.80 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	10 Jul 1941	Weight	160 lb / 72.5 kg	Duty pos	BOMB/NAV
Home State	CALIFORNIA	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

----- SITE INFORMATION -----

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QXJ734062
Lat/Long: 205058N / 1064001E
Country: NORTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 3
Mission Province: HAI PHONG
(formerly): HAIPHONG
Mission District: AN HAI
Mission Date: 6 Mar 1968 2030L
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Populated area.

----- JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY -----

Folders Passed: Sep 93, Sep 85, Oct 83
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: DISCREPANCY
Survivability: (3) Unknown

----- VEHICLE DATA -----

Vehicle Type: A6A	Serial: 152922
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J52P6
Call Sign: FLYING ACE 511	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: \$

----- SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY -----

- Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ - Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank - Data for item is unknown or not available.

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 26 OCTOBER 1993

----- BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION -----

REFNO: 1075-0-02 (ACCNO 1394) Status: (K) REMAINS RECOVERED
Name: NELSON, RICHARD CRAWFORD Date Status assigned: 3 Aug 1984

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	O +
Grade	04	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN		Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	#
Serial No	668762	Height	72 in / 1.83 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	12 Jul 1941	Weight	201 lb / 91.1 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State	PENNSYLVANIA	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

----- SITE INFORMATION -----

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QXJ734062
Lat/Long: 205058N / 1064001E
Country: NORTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 3
Mission Province: HAI PHONG
(formerly): HAIPHONG
Mission District: AN HAI
Mission Date: 6 Mar 1968 2030L
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Populated area.

----- JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY -----

Remains Repatriated: YES
Folders Passed: Oct 83
Vessey Case: NO
Survivability: (3) Unknown

----- VEHICLE DATA -----

Vehicle Type: A6A	Serial: 152922
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J52P6
Call Sign: FLYING ACE 511	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: \$

----- SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY -----

- Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ - Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank - Data for item is unknown or not available.

--- CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ---

9 April 1975

ON 6 MARCH 1968 LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON, PILOT, AND LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL, BOMBARDIER/NAVIGATOR, WERE CREWMEN OF AN A6A AIRCRAFT (BUNO 152922) ON A COORDINATED, FOUR AIRCRAFT STRIKE MISSION IN THE HANOI-HAIPHONG AREA OF NORTH VIETNAM. EACH AIRCRAFT HAD A DIFFERENT MISSION PLAN BUT ALL WERE UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE SAME FLIGHT LEADER. LCDR NELSON'S TARGET WAS ONE OF THE MOST HEAVILY DEFENDED, WITH NUMEROUS SURFACE-TO-AIR (SAM) MISSILE SITES; HEAVY, MEDIUM AND LIGHT ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY (AAA); PLUS OTHER AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AND SMALL ARMS.

ALL FOUR A6A STRIKE AIRCRAFT ACKNOWLEDGED A RADIO CHECK AFTER LAUNCHING, AS SCHEDULED. THIS CHECK WAS THE LAST TRANSMISSION HEARD FROM LCDR NELSON'S AIRCRAFT. IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES LCDR NELSON TURNED OFF HIS IFF RADAR TRANSMITTER 35 MILES FROM THE COAST LINE (XH 915 363) MAKING FURTHER TRACKING BY THE AIRBORNE CONTROL AIRCRAFT IMPOSSIBLE. THE NEXT SCHEDULED CONTACT WITH THE STRIKE AIRCRAFT WAS THE "FEET WET" (OVER WATER) CHECK-IN AFTER THE STRIKE. LCDR NELSON'S AIRCRAFT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE FIRST TO REACH THE "FEET WET" CHECK POINT. WHEN HE FAILED TO CHECK-IN, A SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR) EFFORT WAS BEGUN.

AN EXTENSIVE ELECTRONIC SEARCH WAS PERFORMED AND A VISUAL SEARCH WAS STARTED AT FIRST LIGHT. AT NO TIME WERE DISTRESS SIGNALS OR BEEPERS RECEIVED DURING THE STRIKE OR SAR EFFORTS. SAR EFFORTS WERE TERMINATED AT 1514 HOURS ON 7 MARCH 1968. AT NO TIME WAS A SAR CONDUCTED IN THE ACTUAL TARGET AREA, BECAUSE OF THE EXTREME HOSTILE THREAT. (REF 1)

ON 7 MARCH 1968, HANOI RADIO BROADCAST THE FOLLOWING: "AT 1940 HOURS YESTERDAY, THE PEOPLE'S ARMED FORCES AT HAIPHONG BLASTED DOWN ON THE SPOT AN A6 JET, THE 200TH PLANE DOWNED OVER THE PORT CITY." LCDR NELSON'S TIME ON TARGET WAS 2040 HOURS, SO THE NEWSCAST DOES CORRELATE CLOSELY WITH THIS INCIDENT. (HANOI'S REPORT INDICATES THAT THEY HAVE MORE INFORMATION RELATED TO THIS CASE). (REF 2)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. LCDR NELSON IS CARRIED IN THE STATUS OF REMAINS RECOVERED. LCDR MITCHELL IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

25 November 1985

ON 17 JUL 84 THE SRV RETURNED REMAINS ALLEGED TO BE GILBERT L. MITCHELL WITH A PHOTO OF A DEAD PILOT. ON THE BACK OF THE PHOTO WAS WRITTEN THE NAME MITCHELL, GILBERT L. HOWEVER, CIL-HI DETERMINED THE REMAINS TO BE RICHARD C. NELSON. THE PHOTO IS BELIEVED TO BE THAT OF GILBERT L. MITCHELL.

--- SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ---

22 August 1983

SOURCE REPORTS WITNESSING THE CRASH OF A JET AIRCRAFT AT APPROXIMATELY 2300 HRS IN 1968 IN THE VICINITY OF XJ 7208. HE ALLEGEDLY SAW ONE DEAD PILOT WHO WAS SUBSEQUENTLY BURIED BY VILLAGERS IN THE VICINITY OF XJ 717 082. THIS POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON AND LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL. (REF 3)

12 March 1984

SOURCE REPORTS THE SHOOT DOWN OF A U.S. JET AIRCRAFT DURING THE MID-1960'S IN THE VICINITY OF XH 684 999. THIS POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL AND LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON. (REF 4)

SOURCE REPORTS THE SHOOT DOWN OF A U.S. JET AIRCRAFT AND THE BAIL OUT OF THE PILOT IN THE VICINITY OF XJ 764106. THIS POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL AND LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON. (REF 5)

12 September 1984

SOURCE CLAIMED HE OBSERVED AN AIRCRAFT CRASHSITE VICINITY OF XJ 726 086 THAT WAS SHOT DOWN IN OCTOBER 1967. SOURCE SAW THE BODY OF A DEAD CAUCASIAN PILOT AND HEARD, BUT DID NOT SEE, ABOUT ANOTHER BODY AS CLAIMED BY SPECTATORS. SOURCE'S INFORMATION POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL, USN. (REF 6)

14 April 1986

SOURCE PROVIDED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SHOOTDOWN OF ONE U.S. AIRCRAFT AND DEATH OF TWO CREW MEMBERS AT THE HAI PHONG POL DEPOT (VICINITY GRID COORDINATES XJ 720 020). THIS REPORT PROBABLY CORRELATES TO COMMANDER NELSON AND COMMANDER MITCHELL. (REF 7)

CASE: 1075

13 November 1990

THE SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CRASH OF A U.S. AIRCRAFT AND THE DEATH OF THE PILOT, VICINITY XJ7208. THE LOCATION, DATE AND TIME PROVIDED BY THE SOURCE CORRELATE WITH REFNO 1075. CORRELATION IS LIMITED TO POSSIBLE BECAUSE THE LOSS LOCATION OF REFNO 1075 HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED. (REF 8)

15 April 1991

SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE NIGHT CRASH OF A U.S. AIRCRAFT IN THE SUMMER OF 1968 AT XJ727088. SOURCE HEARD TWO CREW MEMBERS PERISHED IN THE CRASH. THE LOCATION, YEAR, TIME OF YEAR AND TIME OF DAY CORRELATE WELL WITH LIEUTENANT COMMANDERS NELSON AND MITCHELL'S INCIDENT. ADDITIONALLY, THIS REPORT IS CONSISTENT WITH PREVIOUS REPORTING THAT CORRELATES TO THIS INCIDENT. (REF 9)

SOURCE PROVIDED A DESCRIPTION OF THE LOCATION, JUST OUTSIDE THE HAIPHONG OIL TERMINAL, AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS WHICH CORRELATE WELL WITH THIS INCIDENT AND PREVIOUS REPORTING CORRELATED TO THIS INCIDENT. (REF 10)

--- REFERENCES ---

12 September 1984

REFERENCES USED: <1> RPT , CB ATT SQDR 75, W/STATEMENTS, 15 MAR 68. <2> MSG , FBIS OKINAWA, 070640Z MAR 68. <3> REFCN , HK83-024, 27 APR 83. <4> REFCN , HK83-040. <5> REFCN , HK83-041. <6> REFCN , 84-077, 22 JUNE 1984. <7> REFCN , HK86-084, 18 DEC 86. <8> 89-352, JCRC LIAISON BKK, 26 JANUARY 1990 & HK89-354, JCRC LIAISON BKK, 5 FEBRUARY 1990. <9> 89-423, 8 MARCH 1991. <10> 89-449, 22 MAY 1990. <11> CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/J2/231202Z DEC 92. <12> 101122Z MAR 93 CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI. <13> 120002Z MAY 93, CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI. <14> JTF-FA DET 2 FAX (831-93), 3 SEP 93.

--- NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ---

3 August 1984

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON GILBERT L. MITCHELL AND RICHARD C. NELSON WAS PASSED TO VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTER, NGUYEN CO THACH, ON 3 OCT 83 IN NEW YORK BY ANN MILLS GRIFFITHS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES. ANOTHER FOLDER WAS PASSED AT THE 9-28 SEP 85 TECH MEETING IN HANOI. NELSON'S REMAINS WERE RETURNED TO THE U.S. BY THE SRV ON 17 JULY 84. STATUS CHANGE RES-K APPROVED BY THE ASGRO BOARD ON 3 AUG 84.

CASE: 1075

--- NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ---

18 October 1993

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 1075-0-01 WAS PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE 29 SEP 93 COORDINATION MEETING.

--- ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ---

9 April 1975

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: GILBERT L. MITCHELL, 1075-0-01, AND RICHARD C. NELSON, 1075-0-02.

--- MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE ---

10 April 1975

COORDS CHANGED FROM XH 915 363 TO XJ 734 064 BASED ON LTR, ATT SQDR 75, 15 MAR 68, SUBJ: INCONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE OF DEATH: REPORT OF, WITH ENCLOSURES.

--- ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ---

22 January 1993

TWO PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE CENTRAL ARMY MUSEUM CORRELATE TO REFNO 1075-0-01. PHOTOS ARE OF REMAINS (ROLL 5/FAME 22) AND AN ENVELOPE WITH VIETNAMESE ANNOTATIONS (ROLL 5/FAME 21). CORRELATION BASED ON VIETNAMESE ANNOTATED NAME, AIRCRAFT TYPE, AND INCIDENT DATE. (REF 11)

11 March 1993

TWO PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE CENTRAL ARMY MUSEUM CORRELATE TO REFNO 1075. PHOTOS ARE OF TWO VIETNAMESE EXAMINING U/I AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE (ROLL 167/FAME 22) WITH VIETNAMESE ANNOTATIONS (ROLL 167/FAME 23). CORRELATION IS BASED ON TYPE OF AIRCRAFT, PROVINCE AND TIME OF LOSS ASSOCIATED WITH REFNO 1075. (REF 12)

18 May 1993

ONE PHOTOGRAPH FROM THE CENTRAL ARMY MUSEUM CORRELATES TO REFNO 1075. PHOTO IS OF A VIETNAMESE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE (ROLL 249/FAME 10) WHICH CORRELATES TO REFNO 1075 BASED ON CITY OF INCIDENT, AIRCRAFT TYPE AND INCIDENT DATE. (REF 13)

--- ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ---

15 October 1993

ON 31 AUG 93, THE VIETNAMESE TURNED OVER BRIEF CASE ASSESSMENTS FOR 11 UNRESOLVED CASES. THE ASSESSMENTS WERE IN RESPONSE TO A U.S. LIST OF LOSSES FOR WHICH PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE SUGGESTED POSSIBLE SRV KNOWLEDGE REGARDING THE LOCATION OF REMAINS. ONE OF THESE CASES WAS REFNO 1075, FOR WHICH THE VIETNAMESE RECOMMENDED FURTHER INVESTIGATION. (REF 14)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 13 DECEMBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1075-0-01 (ACCNO 1384)		Status: (8) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED	
Name: MITCHELL, GILBERT LOUIS		Date Status assigned: 11 Sep 1974	
Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE
Grade	04	Hair	BROWN
SSAN		Eyes	HAZEL
Serial No	DATA	Height	71 in / 1.80 mtrs
Birth date	10 Jul 1941	Weight	160 lb / 72.5 kg
Home State	CALIFORNIA	Religion	PROTESTANT
		Blood Chit	DATA
		Blood type	A -
		Complexion	FAIR
		Weapon	#
		Weapon No	#
		Duty pos	BOMB/NAV
		PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QXJ734062
Lat/Long: 205058N / 1064001E
Country: NORTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 3
Mission Province: HAI PHONG
(formerly): HAIPHONG
Mission District: AN HAI
Mission Date: 6 Mar 1968 2030L
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Sep 93, Sep 85, Oct 83
Investigations: Oct 93
Surveys: Oct 93
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: DISCREPANCY
Survivability: (3) Unknown

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: A6A	Serial: 152922
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J52P6
Call Sign: FLYING ACE 511	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: \$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 13 DECEMBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1075-0-02 (ACCNO 1394) Status: (K) REMAINS RECOVERED
Name: NELSON, RICHARD CRAWFORD Date Status assigned: 3 Aug 1984

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	O +
Grade	O4	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	#
Serial No	DATA	Height	72 in / 1.83 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	12 Jul 1941	Weight	201 lb / 91.1 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State	PENNSYLVANIA	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QXJ734062
Lat/Long: 205058N / 1064001E
Country: NORTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 3
Mission Province: HAI PHONG
(formerly): HAIPHONG
Mission District: AN HAI
Mission Date: 6 Mar 1968 2030L
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Remains Repatriated: YES
Folders Passed: Oct 83
Investigations: Oct 93
Surveys: Oct 93
Vessey Case: NO
Survivability: (3) Unknown

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: A6A	Serial: 152922
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J52P6
Call Sign: FLYING ACE 511	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: \$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

CASE: 1075

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

9 April 1975

ON 6 MARCH 1968 LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON, PILOT, AND LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL, BOMBARDIER/NAVIGATOR, WERE CREWMEN OF AN A6A AIRCRAFT (BUNO 152922) ON A COORDINATED, FOUR AIRCRAFT STRIKE MISSION IN THE HANOI-HAIPHONG AREA OF NORTH VIETNAM. EACH AIRCRAFT HAD A DIFFERENT MISSION PLAN BUT ALL WERE UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE SAME FLIGHT LEADER. LCDR NELSON'S TARGET WAS ONE OF THE MOST HEAVILY DEFENDED, WITH NUMEROUS SURFACE-TO-AIR (SAM) MISSILE SITES; HEAVY, MEDIUM AND LIGHT ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY (AAA); PLUS OTHER AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AND SMALL ARMS.

ALL FOUR A6A STRIKE AIRCRAFT ACKNOWLEDGED A RADIO CHECK AFTER LAUNCHING, AS SCHEDULED. THIS CHECK WAS THE LAST TRANSMISSION HEARD FROM LCDR NELSON'S AIRCRAFT. IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES LCDR NELSON TURNED OFF HIS IFF RADAR TRANSMITTER 35 MILES FROM THE COAST LINE (XH 915 363) MAKING FURTHER TRACKING BY THE AIRBORNE CONTROL AIRCRAFT IMPOSSIBLE. THE NEXT SCHEDULED CONTACT WITH THE STRIKE AIRCRAFT WAS THE "FEET WET" (OVER WATER) CHECK-IN AFTER THE STRIKE. LCDR NELSON'S AIRCRAFT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE FIRST TO REACH THE "FEET WET" CHECK POINT. WHEN HE FAILED TO CHECK-IN, A SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR) EFFORT WAS BEGUN.

AN EXTENSIVE ELECTRONIC SEARCH WAS PERFORMED AND A VISUAL SEARCH WAS STARTED AT FIRST LIGHT. AT NO TIME WERE DISTRESS SIGNALS OR BEEPERS RECEIVED DURING THE STRIKE OR SAR EFFORTS. SAR EFFORTS WERE TERMINATED AT 1514 HOURS ON 7 MARCH 1968. AT NO TIME WAS A SAR CONDUCTED IN THE ACTUAL TARGET AREA, BECAUSE OF THE EXTREME HOSTILE THREAT. (REF 1)

ON 7 MARCH 1968, HANOI RADIO BROADCAST THE FOLLOWING: "AT 1940 HOURS YESTERDAY, THE PEOPLE'S ARMED FORCES AT HAIPHONG BLASTED DOWN ON THE SPOT AN A6 JET, THE 200TH PLANE DOWNED OVER THE PORT CITY." LCDR NELSON'S TIME ON TARGET WAS 2040 HOURS, SO THE NEWSCAST DOES CORRELATE CLOSELY WITH THIS INCIDENT. (HANOI'S REPORT INDICATES THAT THEY HAVE MORE INFORMATION RELATED TO THIS CASE). (REF 2)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. LCDR NELSON IS CARRIED IN THE STATUS OF REMAINS RECOVERED. LCDR MITCHELL IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

CASE: 1075

25 November 1985

ON 17 JUL 84 THE SRV RETURNED REMAINS ALLEGED TO BE GILBERT L. MITCHELL WITH A PHOTO OF A DEAD PILOT. ON THE BACK OF THE PHOTO WAS WRITTEN THE NAME MITCHELL, GILBERT L. HOWEVER, CIL-HI DETERMINED THE REMAINS TO BE RICHARD C. NELSON. THE PHOTO IS BELIEVED TO BE THAT OF GILBERT L. MITCHELL.

=== SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ===

22 August 1983

SOURCE REPORTS WITNESSING THE CRASH OF A JET AIRCRAFT AT APPROXIMATELY 2300 HRS IN 1968 IN THE VICINITY OF XJ 7208. HE ALLEGEDLY SAW ONE DEAD PILOT WHO WAS SUBSEQUENTLY BURIED BY VILLAGERS IN THE VICINITY OF XJ 717 082. THIS POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON AND LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL. (REF 3)

12 March 1984

SOURCE REPORTS THE SHOOT DOWN OF A U.S. JET AIRCRAFT DURING THE MID-1960'S IN THE VICINITY OF XH 684 999. THIS POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL AND LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON. (REF 4)

SOURCE REPORTS THE SHOOT DOWN OF A U.S. JET AIRCRAFT AND THE BAIL OUT OF THE PILOT IN THE VICINITY OF XJ 764106. THIS POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL AND LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON. (REF 5)

12 September 1984

SOURCE CLAIMED HE OBSERVED AN AIRCRAFT CRASHSITE VICINITY OF XJ 726 086 THAT WAS SHOT DOWN IN OCTOBER 1967. SOURCE SAW THE BODY OF A DEAD CAUCASIAN PILOT AND HEARD, BUT DID NOT SEE, ABOUT ANOTHER BODY AS CLAIMED BY SPECTATORS. SOURCE'S INFORMATION POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL, USN. (REF 6)

14 April 1986

SOURCE PROVIDED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SHOOTDOWN OF ONE U.S. AIRCRAFT AND DEATH OF TWO CREW MEMBERS AT THE HAI PHONG POL DEPOT (VICINITY GRID COORDINATES XJ 720 080). THIS REPORT PROBABLY CORRELATES TO COMMANDER NELSON AND COMMANDER MITCHELL. (REF 7)

CASE: 1075

13 November 1990

THE SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CRASH OF A U.S. AIRCRAFT AND THE DEATH OF THE PILOT, VICINITY XJ7208. THE LOCATION, DATE AND TIME PROVIDED BY THE SOURCE CORRELATE WITH REFNO 1075. CORRELATION IS LIMITED TO POSSIBLE BECAUSE THE LOSS LOCATION OF REFNO 1075 HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED. (REF 8)

15 April 1991

SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE NIGHT CRASH OF A U.S. AIRCRAFT IN THE SUMMER OF 1968 AT XJ727088. SOURCE HEARD TWO CREW MEMBERS PERISHED IN THE CRASH. THE LOCATION, YEAR, TIME OF YEAR AND TIME OF DAY CORRELATE WELL WITH LIEUTENANT COMMANDERS NELSON AND MITCHELL'S INCIDENT. ADDITIONALLY, THIS REPORT IS CONSISTENT WITH PREVIOUS REPORTING THAT CORRELATES TO THIS INCIDENT. (REF 9)

SOURCE PROVIDED A DESCRIPTION OF THE LOCATION, JUST OUTSIDE THE HAIPHONG OIL TERMINAL, AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS WHICH CORRELATE WELL WITH THIS INCIDENT AND PREVIOUS REPORTING CORRELATED TO THIS INCIDENT. (REF 10)

=== REFERENCES ===

12 September 1984

REFERENCES USED: <1> RPT CB ATT SQDR 75, W/STATEMENTS, 15 MAR 68. <2> MSG FBIS OKINAWA, 070640Z MAR 68. <3> REFCN .83-024, 27 APR 83. <4> REFCN 83-040. <5> REFCN 83-041. <6> REFCN 84-077, 22 JUNE 1984. <7> REFCN 86-084, 18 DEC 86. <8> 89-352, JCRC LIAISON BKK, 26 JANUARY 1990 & 89-354, JCRC LIAISON BKK, 5 FEBRUARY 1990. <9> 89-423, 8 MARCH 1991. <10> 89-449, 22 MAY 1990. <11> CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/J2/231202Z DEC 92. <12> 101122Z MAR 93 CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI. <13> 120002Z MAY 93, CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI. <14> JTF-FA DET 2 FAX (831-93), 3 SEP 93. <15> CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH, 200247Z NOV 93.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

3 August 1984

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON GILBERT L. MITCHELL AND RICHARD C. NELSON WAS PASSED TO VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTER, NGUYEN CO THACH, ON 3 OCT 83 IN NEW YORK BY ANN MILLS GRIFFITHS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES. ANOTHER FOLDER WAS PASSED AT THE 9-28 SEP 85 TECH MEETING IN HANOI. NELSON'S REMAINS WERE RETURNED TO THE U.S. BY THE SRV ON 17 JULY 84. STATUS CHANGE RES-K APPROVED BY THE ASGRO BOARD ON 3 AUG 84.

CASE: 1075

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

18 October 1993

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 1075-0-01 WAS PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE 29 SEP 93 COORDINATION MEETING.

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

9 April 1975

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: GILBERT L. MITCHELL, 1075-0-01, AND RICHARD C. NELSON, 1075-0-02.

=== MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE ===

10 April 1975

COORDS CHANGED FROM XH 915 363 TO XJ 734 064 BASED ON LTR, ATT SQDR 75, 15 MAR 68, SUBJ: INCONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE OF DEATH: REPORT OF, WITH ENCLOSURES.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

2 December 1993

ON 7 NOV 93, IE1 TRAVELED TO DONG TIEN VILLAGE, AN HAI DISTRICT, HAI PHONG PROVINCE TO INVESTIGATE CASE 1075. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS WHO PROVIDED INFORMATION ASSOCIATED WITH THIS CASE. THE TEAM ALSO TRAVELED TO THE INCIDENT LOCATION AND OBSERVED NO EVIDENCE OF REMAINS, PERSONAL EFFECTS OR EQUIPMENT. NO REMAINS OR MATERIAL EVIDENCE WERE FOUND DURING THE INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE. (REF 15)

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

22 January 1993

TWO PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE CENTRAL ARMY MUSEUM CORRELATE TO REFNO 1075-0-01. PHOTOS ARE OF REMAINS (ROLL 5/FAME 22) AND AN ENVELOPE WITH VIETNAMESE ANNOTATIONS (ROLL 5/FAME 21). CORRELATION BASED ON VIETNAMESE ANNOTATED NAME, AIRCRAFT TYPE, AND INCIDENT DATE. (REF 11)

11 March 1993

TWO PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE CENTRAL ARMY MUSEUM CORRELATE TO REFNO 1075. PHOTOS ARE OF TWO VIETNAMESE EXAMINING U/I AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE (ROLL 167/FAME 22) WITH VIETNAMESE ANNOTATIONS (ROLL 167/FAME 23).

CASE: 1075

CORRELATION IS BASED ON TYPE OF AIRCRAFT, PROVINCE AND TIME OF LOSS ASSOCIATED WITH REFNO 1075. (REF 12)

18 May 1993

ONE PHOTOGRAPH FROM THE CENTRAL ARMY MUSEUM CORRELATES TO REFNO 1075. PHOTO IS OF A VIETNAMESE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE (ROLL 249/FAME 10) WHICH CORRELATES TO REFNO 1075 BASED ON CITY OF INCIDENT, AIRCRAFT TYPE AND INCIDENT DATE. (REF 13)

15 October 1993

ON 31 AUG 93, THE VIETNAMESE TURNED OVER BRIEF CASE ASSESSMENTS FOR 11 UNRESOLVED CASES. THE ASSESSMENTS WERE IN RESPONSE TO A U.S. LIST OF LOSSES FOR WHICH PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE SUGGESTED POSSIBLE SRV KNOWLEDGE REGARDING THE LOCATION OF REMAINS. ONE OF THESE CASES WAS REFNO 1075, FOR WHICH THE VIETNAMESE RECOMMENDED FURTHER INVESTIGATION. (REF 14)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 14 MARCH 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1075-0-01 (ACCNO 1384) Status: (8) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: MITCHELL, GILBERT LOUIS Date Status assigned: 11 Sep 1974

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	A -
Grade	04	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	HAZEL	Weapon	#
Serial No	680985	Height	71 in /1.80 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	10 Jul 1941	Weight	160 lb / 72.5 kg	Duty pos	BOMB/NAV
Home State	CALIFORNIA	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QXJ734062
Lat/Long: 205058N / 1064001E
Country: NORTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 3
Mission Province: HAI PHONG
(formerly): HAIPHONG
Mission District: AN HAI
Mission Date: 6 Mar 1968 2030L
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Sep 93, Sep 85, Oct 83
Investigations: Oct 93
Surveys: Oct 93
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: DISCREPANCY
Survivability: (3) Unknown

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: A6A	Serial: 152922
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J52P6
Call Sign: FLYING ACE 511	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: \$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 14 MARCH 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1075-0-02 (ACCNO 1394) Status: (K) REMAINS RECOVERED
Name: NELSON, RICHARD CRAWFORD Date Status assigned: 3 Aug 1984

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	O +
Grade	04	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	#
Serial No	668762	Height	72 in /1.83 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	12 Jul 1941	Weight	201 lb / 91.1 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State	PENNSYLVANIA	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QXJ734062
Lat/Long: 205058N / 1064001E
Country: NORTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 3
Mission Province: HAI PHONG
(formerly): HAIPHONG
Mission District: AN HAI
Mission Date: 6 Mar 1968 2030L
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Remains Repatriated: YES
Folders Passed: Oct 83
Investigations: Oct 93
Surveys: Oct 93
Vessey Case: NO
Survivability: (3) Unknown

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: A6A	Serial: 152922
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J52P6
Call Sign: FLYING ACE 511	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: \$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

CASE: 1075

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

9 April 1975

ON 6 MARCH 1968 LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON, PILOT, AND LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL, BOMBARDIER/NAVIGATOR, WERE CREWMEN OF AN A6A AIRCRAFT (BUNO 152922) ON A COORDINATED, FOUR AIRCRAFT STRIKE MISSION IN THE HANOI-HAIPHONG AREA OF NORTH VIETNAM. EACH AIRCRAFT HAD A DIFFERENT MISSION PLAN BUT ALL WERE UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE SAME FLIGHT LEADER. LCDR NELSON'S TARGET WAS ONE OF THE MOST HEAVILY DEFENDED, WITH NUMEROUS SURFACE-TO-AIR (SAM) MISSILE SITES; HEAVY, MEDIUM AND LIGHT ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY (AAA); PLUS OTHER AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AND SMALL ARMS.

ALL FOUR A6A STRIKE AIRCRAFT ACKNOWLEDGED A RADIO CHECK AFTER LAUNCHING, AS SCHEDULED. THIS CHECK WAS THE LAST TRANSMISSION HEARD FROM LCDR NELSON'S AIRCRAFT. IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES LCDR NELSON TURNED OFF HIS IFF RADAR TRANSMITTER 35 MILES FROM THE COAST LINE (XH 915 363) MAKING FURTHER TRACKING BY THE AIRBORNE CONTROL AIRCRAFT IMPOSSIBLE. THE NEXT SCHEDULED CONTACT WITH THE STRIKE AIRCRAFT WAS THE "FEET WET" (OVER WATER) CHECK-IN AFTER THE STRIKE. LCDR NELSON'S AIRCRAFT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE FIRST TO REACH THE "FEET WET" CHECK POINT. WHEN HE FAILED TO CHECK-IN, A SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR) EFFORT WAS BEGUN.

AN EXTENSIVE ELECTRONIC SEARCH WAS PERFORMED AND A VISUAL SEARCH WAS STARTED AT FIRST LIGHT. AT NO TIME WERE DISTRESS SIGNALS OR BEEPERS RECEIVED DURING THE STRIKE OR SAR EFFORTS. SAR EFFORTS WERE TERMINATED AT 1514 HOURS ON 7 MARCH 1968. AT NO TIME WAS A SAR CONDUCTED IN THE ACTUAL TARGET AREA, BECAUSE OF THE EXTREME HOSTILE THREAT. (REF 1)

ON 7 MARCH 1968, HANOI RADIO BROADCAST THE FOLLOWING: "AT 1940 HOURS YESTERDAY, THE PEOPLE'S ARMED FORCES AT HAIPHONG BLASTED DOWN ON THE SPOT AN A6 JET, THE 200TH PLANE DOWNED OVER THE PORT CITY." LCDR NELSON'S TIME ON TARGET WAS 2040 HOURS, SO THE NEWSCAST DOES CORRELATE CLOSELY WITH THIS INCIDENT. (HANOI'S REPORT INDICATES THAT THEY HAVE MORE INFORMATION RELATED TO THIS CASE). (REF 2)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. LCDR NELSON IS CARRIED IN THE STATUS OF REMAINS RECOVERED. LCDR MITCHELL IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

CASE: 1075

25 November 1985

ON 17 JUL 84 THE SRV RETURNED REMAINS ALLEGED TO BE GILBERT L. MITCHELL WITH A PHOTO OF A DEAD PILOT. ON THE BACK OF THE PHOTO WAS WRITTEN THE NAME MITCHELL, GILBERT L. HOWEVER, CIL-HI DETERMINED THE REMAINS TO BE RICHARD C. NELSON. THE PHOTO IS BELIEVED TO BE THAT OF GILBERT L. MITCHELL.

=== SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ===

22 August 1983

SOURCE REPORTS WITNESSING THE CRASH OF A JET AIRCRAFT AT APPROXIMATELY 2300 HRS IN 1968 IN THE VICINITY OF XJ 7208. HE ALLEGEDLY SAW ONE DEAD PILOT WHO WAS SUBSEQUENTLY BURIED BY VILLAGERS IN THE VICINITY OF XJ 717 082. THIS POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON AND LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL. (REF 3)

12 March 1984

SOURCE REPORTS THE SHOOT DOWN OF A U.S. JET AIRCRAFT DURING THE MID-1960'S IN THE VICINITY OF XH 684 999. THIS POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL AND LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON. (REF 4)

SOURCE REPORTS THE SHOOT DOWN OF A U.S. JET AIRCRAFT AND THE BAIL OUT OF THE PILOT IN THE VICINITY OF XJ 764106. THIS POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL AND LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON. (REF 5)

12 September 1984

SOURCE CLAIMED HE OBSERVED AN AIRCRAFT CRASHSITE VICINITY OF XJ 726 086 THAT WAS SHOT DOWN IN OCTOBER 1967. SOURCE SAW THE BODY OF A DEAD CAUCASIAN PILOT AND HEARD, BUT DID NOT SEE, ABOUT ANOTHER BODY AS CLAIMED BY SPECTATORS. SOURCE'S INFORMATION POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL, USN. (REF 6)

14 April 1986

SOURCE PROVIDED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SHOOTDOWN OF ONE U.S. AIRCRAFT AND DEATH OF TWO CREW MEMBERS AT THE HAI PHONG POL DEPOT (VICINITY GRID COORDINATES XJ 720 080). THIS REPORT PROBABLY CORRELATES TO COMMANDER NELSON AND COMMANDER MITCHELL. (REF 7)

CASE: 1075

13 November 1990

THE SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CRASH OF A U.S. AIRCRAFT AND THE DEATH OF THE PILOT, VICINITY XJ7208. THE LOCATION, DATE AND TIME PROVIDED BY THE SOURCE CORRELATE WITH REFNO 1075. CORRELATION IS LIMITED TO POSSIBLE BECAUSE THE LOSS LOCATION OF REFNO 1075 HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED. (REF 8)

15 April 1991

SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE NIGHT CRASH OF A U.S. AIRCRAFT IN THE SUMMER OF 1968 AT XJ727088. SOURCE HEARD TWO CREW MEMBERS PERISHED IN THE CRASH. THE LOCATION, YEAR, TIME OF YEAR AND TIME OF DAY CORRELATE WELL WITH LIEUTENANT COMMANDERS NELSON AND MITCHELL'S INCIDENT. ADDITIONALLY, THIS REPORT IS CONSISTENT WITH PREVIOUS REPORTING THAT CORRELATES TO THIS INCIDENT. (REF 9)

SOURCE PROVIDED A DESCRIPTION OF THE LOCATION, JUST OUTSIDE THE HAIPHONG OIL TERMINAL, AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS WHICH CORRELATE WELL WITH THIS INCIDENT AND PREVIOUS REPORTING CORRELATED TO THIS INCIDENT. (REF 10)

=== REFERENCES ===

12 September 1984

REFERENCES USED: <1> RPT , CB ATT SQDR 75, W/STATEMENTS, 15 MAR 68. <2> MSG , FBIS , 070640Z MAR 68. <3> REFCN , 83-024, 27 APR 83. <4> REFCN , 83-040. <5> REFCN , 83-041. <6> REFCN , 84-077, 22 JUNE 1984. <7> REFCN , 86-084, 18 DEC 86. <8> 89-352, JCRC LIAISON BKK, 26 JANUARY 1990 & 89-354, JCRC LIAISON BKK, 5 FEBRUARY 1990. <9> 89-423, 8 MARCH 1991. <10> 89-449, 22 MAY 1990. <11> CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/J2/231202Z DEC 92. <12> 101122Z MAR 93 CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI. <13> 120002Z MAY 93, CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI. <14> JTF-FA DET 2 FAX (831-93), 3 SEP 93. <15> CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH, 200247Z NOV 93. <16> CDR, JTF-FA 181142Z FEB 94.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

3 August 1984

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON GILBERT L. MITCHELL AND RICHARD C. NELSON WAS PASSED TO VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTER, NGUYEN CO THACH, ON 3 OCT 83 IN NEW YORK BY ANN MILLS GRIFFITHS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES. ANOTHER FOLDER WAS PASSED AT THE 9-28 SEP 85 TECH MEETING IN HANOI. NELSON'S REMAINS WERE RETURNED TO THE U.S. BY THE SRV ON 17 JULY 84. STATUS CHANGE RES-K APPROVED BY THE ASGRO BOARD ON 3 AUG 84.

CASE: 1075

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

18 October 1993

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 1075-0-01 WAS PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE 29 SEP 93 COORDINATION MEETING.

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

9 April 1975

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: GILBERT L. MITCHELL, 1075-0-01, AND RICHARD C. NELSON, 1075-0-02.

=== MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE ===

10 April 1975

COORDS CHANGED FROM XH 915 363 TO XJ 734 064 BASED ON LTR, ATT SQDR 75, 15 MAR 68, SUBJ: INCONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE OF DEATH: REPORT OF, WITH ENCLOSURES.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

2 December 1993

ON 7 NOV 93, IE1 TRAVELED TO DONG TIEN VILLAGE, AN HAI DISTRICT, HAI PHONG PROVINCE TO INVESTIGATE CASE 1075. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS WHO PROVIDED INFORMATION ASSOCIATED WITH THIS CASE. THE TEAM ALSO TRAVELED TO THE INCIDENT LOCATION AND OBSERVED NO EVIDENCE OF REMAINS, PERSONAL EFFECTS OR EQUIPMENT. NO REMAINS OR MATERIAL EVIDENCE WERE FOUND DURING THE INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE. (REF 15)

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

22 January 1993

TWO PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE CENTRAL ARMY MUSEUM CORRELATE TO REFNO 1075-0-01. PHOTOS ARE OF REMAINS (ROLL 5/FAME 22) AND AN ENVELOPE WITH VIETNAMESE ANNOTATIONS (ROLL 5/FAME 21). CORRELATION BASED ON VIETNAMESE ANNOTATED NAME, AIRCRAFT TYPE, AND INCIDENT DATE. (REF 11)

11 March 1993

TWO PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE CENTRAL ARMY MUSEUM CORRELATE TO REFNO 1075. PHOTOS ARE OF TWO VIETNAMESE EXAMINING U/I AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE (ROLL 167/FAME 22) WITH VIETNAMESE ANNOTATIONS (ROLL 167/FAME 23).

CASE: 1075

CORRELATION IS BASED ON TYPE OF AIRCRAFT, PROVINCE AND TIME OF LOSS ASSOCIATED WITH REFNO 1075. (REF 12)

18 May 1993

ONE PHOTOGRAPH FROM THE CENTRAL ARMY MUSEUM CORRELATES TO REFNO 1075. PHOTO IS OF A VIETNAMESE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE (ROLL 249/FAME 10) WHICH CORRELATES TO REFNO 1075 BASED ON CITY OF INCIDENT, AIRCRAFT TYPE AND INCIDENT DATE. (REF 13)

15 October 1993

ON 31 AUG 93, THE VIETNAMESE TURNED OVER BRIEF CASE ASSESSMENTS FOR 11 UNRESOLVED CASES. THE ASSESSMENTS WERE IN RESPONSE TO A U.S. LIST OF LOSSES FOR WHICH PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE SUGGESTED POSSIBLE SRV KNOWLEDGE REGARDING THE LOCATION OF REMAINS. ONE OF THESE CASES WAS REFNO 1075, FOR WHICH THE VIETNAMESE RECOMMENDED FURTHER INVESTIGATION. (REF 14)

2 March 1994

IN NOV 92, THE VIETNAMESE PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TITLED "AIRCRAFT SHOOTDOWN HISTORY OF 350TH HQ (FROM 1965 - 1968 IN HAIPHONG)." LINE ENTRY # 100 OF THIS DOCUMENT PROBABLY CORRELATES TO REFNO 1075, BASED ON INCIDENT DATE, AIRCRAFT TYPE AND LOSS LOCATION. (REF 16)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 10 MAY 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1075-0-01 (ACCNO 1384) Status: (8) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: MITCHELL, GILBERT LOUIS Date Status assigned: 11 Sep 1974

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	A =
Grade	O4	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	HAZEL	Weapon	#
Serial No	680985	Height	71 in / 1.80 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	10 Jul 1941	Weight	160 lb / 72.5 kg	Duty pos	BOMB/NAV
Home State	CALIFORNIA	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QXJ734062
Lat/Long: 205058N / 1064001E
Country: NORTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 3
Mission Province: HAI PHONG
(formerly): HAIPHONG
Mission District: AN HAI
Mission Date: 6 Mar 1968 2030L
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Sep 93, Sep 85, Oct 83
Investigations: Oct 93
Surveys: Oct 93
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: DISCREPANCY
Survivability: (3) Unknown

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type:	A6A	Serial:	152922
Crash Type:	Enemy action	Engine Type:	J52P6
Call Sign:	FLYING ACE 511	1 Serial:	#
Year:	\$	2 Serial:	\$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 10 MAY 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1075-0-02 (ACCNO 1394) Status: (K) REMAINS RECOVERED
Name: NELSON, RICHARD CRAWFORD Date Status assigned: 3 Aug 1984

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	O +
Grade	O4	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	#
Serial No	668762	Height	72 in / 1.83 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	12 Jul 1941	Weight	201 lb / 91.1 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State	PENNSYLVANIA	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QXJ734062
Lat/Long: 205058N / 1064001E
Country: NORTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 3
Mission Province: HAI PHONG
(formerly): HAIPHONG
Mission District: AN HAI
Mission Date: 6 Mar 1968 2030L
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Remains Repatriated: YES
Folders Passed: Oct 83
Investigations: Oct 93
Surveys: Oct 93
Vessey Case: NO
Survivability: (3) Unknown!

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type:	A6A	Serial:	152922
Crash Type:	Enemy action	Engine Type:	J52P6
Call Sign:	FLYING ACE 511	1 Serial:	#
Year:	\$	2 Serial:	\$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

CASE: 1075

===== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS =====

9 April 1975

ON 6 MARCH 1968 LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON, PILOT, AND LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL, BOMBARDIER/NAVIGATOR, WERE CREWMEN OF AN A6A AIRCRAFT (BUNO 152922) ON A COORDINATED, FOUR AIRCRAFT STRIKE MISSION IN THE HANOI-HAIPHONG AREA OF NORTH VIETNAM. EACH AIRCRAFT HAD A DIFFERENT MISSION PLAN BUT ALL WERE UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE SAME FLIGHT-LEADER. LCDR NELSON'S TARGET WAS ONE OF THE MOST HEAVILY DEFENDED, WITH NUMEROUS SURFACE-TO-AIR (SAM) MISSILE SITES; HEAVY, MEDIUM AND LIGHT ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY (AAA); PLUS OTHER AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AND SMALL ARMS.

ALL FOUR A6A STRIKE AIRCRAFT ACKNOWLEDGED A RADIO CHECK AFTER LAUNCHING, AS SCHEDULED. THIS CHECK WAS THE LAST TRANSMISSION HEARD FROM LCDR NELSON'S AIRCRAFT. IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES LCDR NELSON TURNED OFF HIS IFF RADAR TRANSMITTER 35 MILES FROM THE COAST LINE (XH 915 363) MAKING FURTHER TRACKING BY THE AIRBORNE CONTROL AIRCRAFT IMPOSSIBLE. THE NEXT SCHEDULED CONTACT WITH THE STRIKE AIRCRAFT WAS THE "FEET WET" (OVER WATER) CHECK-IN AFTER THE STRIKE. LCDR NELSON'S AIRCRAFT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE FIRST TO REACH THE "FEET WET" CHECK POINT. WHEN HE FAILED TO CHECK-IN, A SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR) EFFORT WAS BEGUN.

AN EXTENSIVE ELECTRONIC SEARCH WAS PERFORMED AND A VISUAL SEARCH WAS STARTED AT FIRST LIGHT. AT NO TIME WERE DISTRESS SIGNALS OR BEEPERS RECEIVED DURING THE STRIKE OR SAR EFFORTS. SAR EFFORTS WERE TERMINATED AT 1514 HOURS ON 7 MARCH 1968. AT NO TIME WAS A SAR CONDUCTED IN THE ACTUAL TARGET AREA, BECAUSE OF THE EXTREME HOSTILE THREAT. (REF 1)

ON 7 MARCH 1968, HANOI RADIO BROADCAST THE FOLLOWING: "AT 1940 HOURS YESTERDAY, THE PEOPLE'S ARMED FORCES AT HAIPHONG BLASTED DOWN ON THE SPOT AN A6 JET, THE 200TH PLANE DOWNED OVER THE PORT CITY." LCDR NELSON'S TIME ON TARGET WAS 2040 HOURS, SO THE NEWSCAST DOES CORRELATE CLOSELY WITH THIS INCIDENT. (HANOI'S REPORT INDICATES THAT THEY HAVE MORE INFORMATION RELATED TO THIS CASE). (REF 2)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. LCDR NELSON IS CARRIED IN THE STATUS OF REMAINS RECOVERED. LCDR MITCHELL IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

CASE: 1075

25 November 1985

ON 17 JUL 84 THE SRV RETURNED REMAINS ALLEGED TO BE GILBERT L. MITCHELL WITH A PHOTO OF A DEAD PILOT. ON THE BACK OF THE PHOTO WAS WRITTEN THE NAME MITCHELL, GILBERT L. HOWEVER, CIL-HI DETERMINED THE REMAINS TO BE RICHARD C. NELSON. THE PHOTO IS BELIEVED TO BE THAT OF GILBERT L. MITCHELL.

=== SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ===

22 August 1983

SOURCE REPORTS WITNESSING THE CRASH OF A JET AIRCRAFT AT APPROXIMATELY 2300 HRS IN 1968 IN THE VICINITY OF XJ 7208. HE ALLEGEDLY SAW ONE DEAD PILOT WHO WAS SUBSEQUENTLY BURIED BY VILLAGERS IN THE VICINITY OF XJ 717 082. THIS POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON AND LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL. (REF 3)

12 March 1984

SOURCE REPORTS THE SHOOT DOWN OF A U.S. JET AIRCRAFT DURING THE MID-1960'S IN THE VICINITY OF XH 684 999. THIS POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL AND LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON. (REF 4)

SOURCE REPORTS THE SHOOT DOWN OF A U.S. JET AIRCRAFT AND THE BAIL OUT OF THE PILOT IN THE VICINITY OF XJ 764106. THIS POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL AND LCDR RICHARD C. NELSON. (REF 5)

12 September 1984

SOURCE CLAIMED HE OBSERVED AN AIRCRAFT CRASHSITE VICINITY OF XJ 726 086 THAT WAS SHOT DOWN IN OCTOBER 1967. SOURCE SAW THE BODY OF A DEAD CAUCASIAN PILOT AND HEARD, BUT DID NOT SEE, ABOUT ANOTHER BODY AS CLAIMED BY SPECTATORS. SOURCE'S INFORMATION POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO LCDR GILBERT L. MITCHELL, USN. (REF 6)

14 April 1986

SOURCE PROVIDED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SHOOTDOWN OF ONE U.S. AIRCRAFT AND DEATH OF TWO CREW MEMBERS AT THE HAI PHONG POL DEPOT (VICINITY GRID COORDINATES XJ 720 080). THIS REPORT PROBABLY CORRELATES TO COMMANDER NELSON AND COMMANDER MITCHELL. (REF 7)

CASE: 1075

13 November 1990

THE SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CRASH OF A U.S. AIRCRAFT AND THE DEATH OF THE PILOT, VICINITY XJ7208. THE LOCATION, DATE AND TIME PROVIDED BY THE SOURCE CORRELATE WITH REFNO 1075. CORRELATION IS LIMITED TO POSSIBLE BECAUSE THE LOSS LOCATION OF REFNO 1075 HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED. (REF 8)

15 April 1991

SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE NIGHT CRASH OF A U.S. AIRCRAFT IN THE SUMMER OF 1968 AT XJ727088. SOURCE HEARD TWO CREW MEMBERS PERISHED IN THE CRASH. THE LOCATION, YEAR, TIME OF YEAR AND TIME OF DAY CORRELATE WELL WITH LIEUTENANT COMMANDERS NELSON AND MITCHELL'S INCIDENT. ADDITIONALLY, THIS REPORT IS CONSISTENT WITH PREVIOUS REPORTING THAT CORRELATES TO THIS INCIDENT. (REF 9)

SOURCE PROVIDED A DESCRIPTION OF THE LOCATION, JUST OUTSIDE THE HAIPHONG OIL TERMINAL, AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS WHICH CORRELATE WELL WITH THIS INCIDENT AND PREVIOUS REPORTING CORRELATED TO THIS INCIDENT. (REF 10)

=== REFERENCES ===

12 September 1984

REFERENCES USED: <1> RPT CB ATT SQDR 75, W/STATEMENTS, 15 MAR 68. <2> MSG , FBIS OKINAWA, 070640Z MAR 68. <3> REFCN 83-024, 27 APR 83. <4> REFCN 83-040. <5> REFCN 83-041. <6> REFCN 84-077, 22 JUNE 1984. <7> REFCN 86-084, 18 DEC 86. <8> 89-352, JCRC LIAISON BKK, 26 JANUARY 1990 & 89-354, JCRC LIAISON BKK, 5 FEBRUARY 1990. <9> 89-423, 8 MARCH 1991. <10> 89-449, 22 MAY 1990. <11> CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/J2/231202Z DEC 92. <12> 101122Z MAR 93 CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI. <13> 120002Z MAY 93, CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI. <14> JTF-FA DET 2 FAX (831-93), 3 SEP 93. <15> CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH, 200247Z NOV 93. <16> CDR, JTF-FA 181142Z FEB 94. <17> MFR, CASUALTY RESOLUTION SUPERVISOR, DET TWO, 14 DEC 93.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

3 August 1984

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON GILBERT L. MITCHELL AND RICHARD C. NELSON WAS PASSED TO VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTER, NGUYEN CO THACH, ON 3 OCT 83 IN NEW YORK BY ANN MILLS GRIFFITHS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES. ANOTHER FOLDER WAS PASSED AT THE 9-28 SEP 85 TECH MEETING IN HANOI. NELSON'S REMAINS WERE RETURNED TO THE U.S. BY THE SRV ON 17 JULY 84. STATUS CHANGE RES-K APPROVED BY THE ASGRO BOARD ON 3 AUG 84.

CASE: 1075

18 October 1993

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 1075-0-01 WAS PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE 29 SEP 93 COORDINATION MEETING.

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

9 April 1975

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: GILBERT L. MITCHELL, 1075-0-01, AND RICHARD C. NELSON, 1075-0-02.

=== MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE ===

10 April 1975

COORDS CHANGED FROM XH 915 363 TO XJ 734 064 BASED ON LTR, ATT SQDR 75, 15 MAR 68, SUBJ: INCONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE OF DEATH: REPORT OF, WITH ENCLOSURES.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

2 December 1993

ON 7 NOV 93, IE1 TRAVELED TO DONG TIEN VILLAGE, AN HAI DISTRICT, HAI PHONG PROVINCE TO INVESTIGATE CASE 1075. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS WHO PROVIDED INFORMATION ASSOCIATED WITH THIS CASE. THE TEAM ALSO TRAVELED TO THE INCIDENT LOCATION AND OBSERVED NO EVIDENCE OF REMAINS, PERSONAL EFFECTS OR EQUIPMENT. NO REMAINS OR MATERIAL EVIDENCE WERE FOUND DURING THE INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE. (REF 15)

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

22 January 1993

TWO PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE CENTRAL ARMY MUSEUM CORRELATE TO REFNO 1075-0-01. PHOTOS ARE OF REMAINS (ROLL 5/FRAME 22) AND AN ENVELOPE WITH VIETNAMESE ANNOTATIONS (ROLL 5/FRAME 21). CORRELATION BASED ON VIETNAMESE ANNOTATED NAME, AIRCRAFT TYPE, AND INCIDENT DATE. (REF 11)

11 March 1993

TWO PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE CENTRAL ARMY MUSEUM CORRELATE TO REFNO 1075. PHOTOS ARE OF TWO VIETNAMESE EXAMINING U/I AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE (ROLL 167/FRAME 22) WITH VIETNAMESE ANNOTATIONS (ROLL 167/FRAME 23).

CASE: 1075

CORRELATION IS BASED ON TYPE OF AIRCRAFT, PROVINCE AND TIME OF LOSS ASSOCIATED WITH REFNO 1075. (REF 12)

18 May 1993

ONE PHOTOGRAPH FROM THE CENTRAL ARMY MUSEUM CORRELATES TO REFNO 1075. PHOTO IS OF A VIETNAMESE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE (ROLL 249/FRAME 10) WHICH CORRELATES TO REFNO 1075 BASED ON CITY OF INCIDENT, AIRCRAFT TYPE AND INCIDENT DATE. (REF 13)

15 October 1993

ON 31 AUG 93, THE VIETNAMESE TURNED OVER BRIEF CASE ASSESSMENTS FOR 11 UNRESOLVED CASES. THE ASSESSMENTS WERE IN RESPONSE TO A U.S. LIST OF LOSSES FOR WHICH PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE SUGGESTED POSSIBLE SRV KNOWLEDGE REGARDING THE LOCATION OF REMAINS. ONE OF THESE CASES WAS REFNO 1075, FOR WHICH THE VIETNAMESE RECOMMENDED FURTHER INVESTIGATION. (REF 14)

2 March 1994

IN NOV 92, THE VIETNAMESE PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TITLED "AIRCRAFT SHOOTDOWN HISTORY OF 350TH HQ (FROM 1965 - 1968 IN HAIPHONG)." LINE ENTRY # 100 OF THIS DOCUMENT PROBABLY CORRELATES TO REFNO 1075, BASED ON INCIDENT DATE, AIRCRAFT TYPE AND LOSS LOCATION. (REF 16)

6 May 1994

ON 14 DECEMBER 1993, THE SRV PROVIDED SEVERAL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO 84 CASES ASSIGNED TO THE JTF-FA SPECIAL REMAINS TEAM (SRT). ONE DOCUMENT TITLED, "LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHED DECEASED U.S. AIRMEN WHOSE REMAINS HAVE NOT YET BEEN RECOVERED", PROVIDES INFORMATION CORRELATING TO REFNO 1075, AN UNRESOLVED CASE. CORRELATION IS BASED ON NAME OF CREWMEMBERS. (REF 17)

21 SEP 1993



JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-5025

CASE 1075-0-01

NARRATIVE

ON 6 MARCH 1968, LIEUTENANT COMMANDER RICHARD C. NELSON AND LIEUTENANT COMMANDER GILBERT L. MITCHELL WERE THE CREW ABOARD AN A-6A ATTACK AIRCRAFT (SERIAL NUMBER 152922) IN A FLIGHT OF FOUR AIRCRAFT ON A NIGHT STRIKE MISSION AGAINST TARGETS IN THE HANOI-HAI PHONG AREA. WHEN THE CREW FAILED TO REPORT IN AS SCHEDULED, SEARCH AND RESCUE EFFORTS WERE INITIATED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. THEIR AIRCRAFT IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN SHOT DOWN IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES XJ734062, HAI PHONG CITY, HAI PHONG PROVINCE. A 7 MARCH 1968 HANOI RADIO BROADCAST REPORTED THAT AT 1940 HOURS YESTERDAY, THE PEOPLE'S ARMED FORCES AT HAI PHONG SHOT DOWN AN A-6 AIRCRAFT OVER HAI PHONG. THE BROADCAST INDICATED THIS WAS THE 200TH AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN OVER HAI PHONG AND THAT THE PILOTS WERE KILLED. A 4 JANUARY 1972 NHAN DAN ARTICLE ALSO REPORTED THE SHOOT DOWN OF AN A-6 AIRCRAFT OVER HAI PHONG ON 6 MARCH 1968. THE ARTICLE STATED BOTH PILOTS WERE KILLED.

ON 17 JULY 1984, THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT REPATRIATED REMAINS WITH THE NAME ASSOCIATION OF "GILBERT L. MITCHELL" AND A PHOTOGRAPH OF A DEAD PILOT. THE NAME "MITCHELL, GILBERT L." WAS WRITTEN ON THE BACK OF THE PHOTOGRAPH. THE REMAINS WERE SUBSEQUENTLY IDENTIFIED AS COMMANDER RICHARD C. NELSON BUT THE PHOTOGRAPH IS BELIEVED TO BE THAT OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER MITCHELL.

PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE
VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE
29 SEP 93 COORDINATION MEETING

CASE 1075-0-01

A U.S. ARCHIVAL RESEARCH TEAM WORKING AT THE CENTRAL ARMED FORCES MUSEUM IN HANOI LOCATED A COPY OF THE PHOTOGRAPH WHICH THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT HAD TURNED OVER DURING THE JULY 1984 REPATRIATION. THE TEAM ALSO LOCATED A PHOTOGRAPH OF TWO VIETNAMESE MEN EXAMINING UNIDENTIFIABLE AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE. THE WRECKAGE APPEARS TO BE A WING EQUIPPED WITH HINGES FOR FOLDING, AS ON U.S. NAVY AIRCRAFT. VIETNAMESE ANNOTATIONS ON THE BACK OF THE PHOTOGRAPH INDICATE THAT IT WAS AN A-6 AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN BY HAI PHONG TROOPS ON THE NIGHT OF 7 MARCH 1968 AND WAS THE 2000TH (SIC) AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN.

PERTINENT DATA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NAME: MITCHELL, GILBERT LOUIS
RANK: LIEUTENANT COMMANDER, U.S. NAVY
DATE OF BIRTH: 10 JULY 1941
RACE: CAUCASIAN
HEIGHT: 1.80 METERS
WEIGHT: 72.5 KILOGRAMS
HAIR: BROWN
EYES: HAZEL



JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BOX 64044
CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-4044

Vụ số 1075-0-01

Tờ Tường Thuật

Vào ngày 6 tháng 3 năm 1968, Thiếu tá RICHARD C. NELSON và Thiếu tá GILBERT L. MITCHELL là phi công trên máy bay oanh tạc A-6A (số hiệu 152922) vào biển đội gồm 4 máy bay là nhiệm vụ tấn công ban đêm chống những mục tiêu ở khu vực Hà Nội và Hải Phòng. Khi phi công không liên lạc như dự định, sự tìm kiếm và cấp cứu được bắt đầu mà không có không có kết quả tốt. Máy bay nó được tin là bị bắn rơi ở phạm vi của tọa độ XJ734062, thành phố Hải Phòng tỉnh Hải Phòng. Một thông báo của đài phát thanh Hà Nội vào ngày 7 tháng 3 năm 1968 báo là, trong lúc 19 giờ 40 ngày qua, quân dân ở Hải Phòng bắn rơi một máy bay A-6 ở trên Hải Phòng. Thông báo cho biết là chiếc máy bay là máy bay thứ 200 mà bị bắn rơi ở trên Hải Phòng và cả hai người lái bị giết. Bài báo nhân dân vào ngày 4 tháng 1 năm 1972 cũng báo về vụ bắn rơi của máy bay A-6 ở trên Hải Phòng vào ngày 6 tháng 3 năm 1968. Bài báo này cho biết là cả hai người lái bị giết.

Vào ngày 17 tháng 7 năm 1984, chính phủ Việt Nam hồi hướng hài cốt với sự liên quan tên "GILBERT L. MITCHELL" và một cái ảnh của người lái chết. Cái tên "MITCHELL, GILBERT L." được viết ở trên sau cái ảnh. Hài cốt này được đồng nhất hoá như Trung tá RICHARD C. NELSON nhưng mà cái ảnh được tin là của Thiếu tá MITCHELL.

Một đội nghiên cứu lưu trữ làm ở Điện báo tàng quân đội ở Hà Nội phát hiện một bản chụp cầu cái ảnh mà chính phủ Việt Nam đã đưa ra vào cuộc hồi hướng vào tháng 7 năm 1984. Đội cũng phát hiện một cái ảnh mà

- 2 -

chính phủ Việt Nam đã đưa ra vào tháng 7 năm 1984. Đội cũng phát hiện một cái ảnh của 2 người ông kiểm tra chiếc xác máy bay không được đồng nhất hoá. Chiếc xác hình như là cái cảnh mà có bản lể để gấp như máy bay Hải quân Mỹ. Cái viết Việt Nam ở trên sau cho biết là máy bay A-6 bị quân đội Hải Phòng bắn rơi vào đêm ngày 7 tháng 3 năm 1968 và là máy bay thứ 2000 (sic) bị bắn rơi.

Những chi tiết liên quan sau đây:

Họ và tên: MITCHELL, GILBERT LOUIS

Cấp bậc: Thiếu tá, Hải quân Mỹ

Ngày sinh: 10/07/1941

Chủng tộc: Da trắng

Chiều cao: 1.80 mét

Cân nặng: 72.5 kí

Màu t